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TERRI M. LYNDALE  
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

**Georgia Public Service Commission**

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DOCKET NO. 5840-U

IN RE: Local Telephone Number Portability Under Section 2 of the  
Telecommunications Competition and Development Act of 1995

Record Submitted: February 7, 1996

Decided: February 20, 1996

APPEARANCES

On Behalf of The Commission Staff:

Nancy Gibson, Office of the Attorney General  
David L. Burgess, Director, Rates and Tariffs

On Behalf of Consumers' Utility Counsel:

Bill Atkinson, Attorney  
Joann Berry, Attorney

On Behalf of AT&T Communications of the Southern States, Inc.:

Roxanne Douglas, Attorney

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Executive Secretary  
Ga. Public Service Commission

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On Behalf of BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. :

Thomas Alexander, Attorney  
William Ellenberg, Attorney

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On Behalf of Airtouch Cellular of Georgia and Airtouch Paging:

Charles Gerkin, Attorney

On behalf of AT&T Wireless PCS, Inc., Georgia Public Communications Assoc., Inc.,Southern Directory Company:

Newton Galloway, Attorney

On Behalf of Cable Television Association of Georgia :

Laura Nix, Attorney

On Behalf of BellSouth Mobility/BellSouth Personal Communications, Inc. :

Michael Bradley, Attorney

On Behalf of Cox Enterprises, Inc. :

Margaret Fernandez

On Behalf of Georgia Telephone Association :

Stephen Kraskin, Attorney

On Behalf of LDDS Worldcom :

John Stuckey, Attorney

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**On Behalf of MCI Telecommunications Corporation :**

David Adelman, Attorney  
Michael J. Henry

**On Behalf of MediaOne :**

L. Craig Dowdy, Attorney

**On Behalf of Sprint Communications :**

Carolyn Roddy, Regulatory

**BY THE COMMISSION:**

The Georgia Public Service Commission ("Commission") is charged with implementing and administering Georgia's new Telecommunications and Competition Act of 1995 (Section 2 of S.B. 137), O.C.G.A. § 46-5-160 et seq. (hereafter "the Act"). As a part of this responsibility, the Commission shall establish the framework for the implementation and administration of portability of local telephone numbers.

Under O.C.G.A. § 46-5-162(13), 'portability' means the technical capability that permits a customer to retain the same local telephone number at the same customer location regardless of the provider of the local exchange service. The Act at O.C.G.A. § 46-5-170 also provides that all local exchange companies shall make the necessary modifications to allow portability of local numbers between different certificated providers of local exchange service as soon as reasonably possible after such portability has been shown to be technically and economically feasible and in the public interest. Pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 46-5-168(b)(10), the Commission's jurisdiction includes the authority to direct telecommunications companies to make investments and modifications necessary to enable portability.

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In order to facilitate the implementation of a permanent number portability solution in Georgia, in its Administrative Session on August 12, 1995, the Commission voted to sponsor a series of Number Portability Workshop meetings. The stated mission of the Workshop process was to:

"Obtain information and industry consensus to the extent possible on the necessary modifications to allow number portability as soon as reasonably possible, technically and economically. Also, obtain information and industry consensus to the extent feasible on access to local telephone number resources and assignments, recognizing the scarcity of such resources and adopted national assignment guidelines and Commission rules."

At the end of the workshop sessions three working subgroups were formed to continue evaluating potential portability solutions and identifying the critical issues regarding implementation of a recommended solution. On October 5, 1995, the Commission Staff issued a set of Number Portability Guidelines which further defined the scope and priorities for deployment of number portability in Georgia. In addition, the Staff recommended the formation of a voluntary Selection Committee with appropriate representation from all industry segments. On November 7, 1995, the Commission provided further guidance to the Selection Committee when it issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking identifying among other things, the service quality and reliability requirements of a mid-term to long-term number portability solution.

The Selection Committee was asked to evaluate the technical, cost, and implementation impacts of each potential call model proposal, and to make a recommendation to the Commission on the best call model for implementation in Georgia. Membership on the Selection Committee included BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc., AT&T Wireless Services, Airtouch Cellular, MFS Intelnet, MediaOne, Standard Telephone Company/Georgia Telephone Association, Sprint Communications, GTE Mobilnet, AT&T of the Southern States, Inc., MCI Metro/MCI Telecommunications and BellSouth Mobility.

On January 8, 1996, the Selection Committee submitted its report to the Commission (See Georgia Number Portability <Docket No. 5840-U> Selection Committee Report to the Georgia Public Service Commission, Attached hereto as Appendix A) outlining its recommendations for the selection of a permanent long term number portability solution and its associated implementation plan. On February 7, 1996, the Commission held a public hearing regarding the Selection Committee Report. Several parties provided testimony detailing the recommendations contained in the report and the necessary time frame for Commission action.

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### **FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND DECISIONS OF REGULATORY POLICY**

Based on the Selection Committee Report and the entire record in this proceeding, including those matters incorporated by reference, the Commission hereby renders the following findings of facts, conclusions of law, and decisions of regulatory policy:

1.

Jurisdiction is proper with the Commission and the Commission has authority to render a decision in this matter pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 46-5-168 (b)(10).

2.

The Commission finds that AT&T's Local Routing Number (LRN) is recommended by the Selection Committee as the permanent long-term call model for database number portability in Georgia. This recommendation was supported unanimously by the Selection Committee with the caveats identified in the report (See Georgia Number Portability <Docket No. 5840-U> Selection Committee Report to the Georgia Public Service Commission, Section 2.5. Selection Committee Vote, Page 9, Appendix A).

3.

The Commission finds that the Selection Committee identified two implementation plan options; Option #1: LRN only implementation, and Option #2: Carrier Portability Code (CPC) to LRN implementation. The LRN only option provides that LRN be implemented as soon as it becomes fully available, which is currently planned for the June, 1997 time frame. The CPC to LRN option recommends the implementation of the CPC solution, as soon as it becomes available, which is currently planned for the March, 1997 time frame. CPC would then be transitioned to LRN as soon as it becomes available.

4.

The Commission finds that Option #1, LRN only, is supported by eight of the nine committee members voting. AT&T and MFS supported this option with caveats. MCI Metro is the only committee member voting for Option #2, CPC to LRN (See Georgia Number Portability <Docket No. 5840-U> Selection Committee Report to the Georgia Public Service Commission, Section 3.1. Selection Committee Vote, Page 12, Appendix A).

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5.

The Commission finds that evidence is contained in the record which demonstrates there would be no significant tangible benefit derived from implementing an interim database solution (CPC) prior to implementing the permanent long term solution (LRN). There would be minimal advance in the deployment schedule (March, 1997 versus June, 1997); additional implementation cost incurred (which have not been quantified); and CPC has remaining technical deficiencies (support for CLASS features).

6.

The Commission finds that the Selection Committee unanimously recommends number portability be implemented on a phased-in basis in a manner determined jointly by the industry.

7.

The Commission finds that the Selection Committee unanimously recommends an implementation committee be established to project manage and work the issues associated with the implementation of database number portability in Georgia.

8.

The Commission finds that the Selection Committee unanimously recommends the Commission establish frequent checkpoints throughout the implementation process to evaluate the status of the effort, to make any required course corrections, and to ensure that the direction established remains the best course of action for Georgia.

9.

The Commission finds that the Selection Committee unanimously recommends that the industry work the cost recovery issues according to the process identified in the report.

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**WHEREFORE IT IS ORDERED** that AT&T's Local Routing Number (LRN) proposal be selected as the permanent long-term call model for database number portability in Georgia.

**ORDERED FURTHER**, that Option #1, LRN only implementation plan is adopted along with its associated target dates.

**ORDERED FURTHER**, that number portability be implemented on a phased in basis in a manner determined jointly by the industry.

**ORDERED FURTHER**, that an implementation committee be established to project manage and work the issues associated with the implementation of database number portability in Georgia.


**ORDERED FURTHER**, that the Commission establish frequent checkpoints throughout the implementation process to evaluate the status of the effort, to make any required course corrections, and to ensure that the direction established remains the best course of action for Georgia. The implementation committee shall submit a monthly status report to the Commission outlining all activities undertaken, milestones achieved, and highlight any deviations or modifications made to the proposed implementation plan. The first status report is due on April 1, 1996.

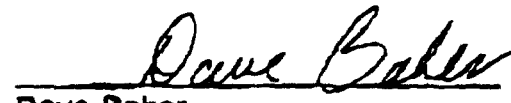
**ORDERED FURTHER**, that the industry work the cost recovery issues according to the process identified in the report.

**ORDERED FURTHER**, that a motion for reconsideration, rehearing, or oral argument or any other motion shall not stay the effective date of this Order, unless otherwise ordered by the Commission.

**ORDERED FURTHER**, that jurisdiction over this matter is expressly retained for the purpose of entering such further Order or Orders as this Commission may deem just and proper.

The above action by the Commission in Administrative Session on the 20th day of February, 1996.

  
Terri M. Lyndall  
Executive Secretary

  
Dave Baker  
Chairman

2/29/96  
Date

2/29/96  
Date